

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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TAGS: ETRD, ETRN, PL, US

SUBJECT: INFORMAL REQUEST FOR COMPREHENSIVE BILATERAL AIRWORTHINESS
AGREEMENT

REF: MEMCON OF JUNE 3-4. DISCUSSION WITH ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL

COMMERCE FOR BEWT/LOTARSKI

BRUSSELS FOR FAA/GAMMON

1. SUMMARY. POLISH AVIATION OFFICIAL CALLED ON EMBOFFS
JUNE 20 WITH INFORMAL REQUEST THAT US CONSIDER
NEGOTIATION OF COMPREHENSIVE BILATERAL AIRWORTHINESS
AGREEMENT WITH POLAND. END SUMMARY.

2. ZBIGNIEW JACHNIS, DEPUTY MANAGER AIRCRAFT DIVISION)
OF PEZETEL, POLISH FTO FOR AVIATION INDUSTRY, CALLED ON
EMBOFFS JUNE 20 AT HIS REQUEST. JACHNIS REVIEWED
ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL'S PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATIVE
PRODUCTION OF LIGHT AIRCRAFT IN POLAND.

3. AS REPORTED REFERENCED MEMCON, ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL
BELIEVES THAT 600 H.P. RADIAL-PISTON ENGINE, UNAVAILABLE
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IN US BUT PRODUCED NOW IN POLAND, CAN BE ADAPTED TO

POWER ITS THRUSH AGRICULTURAL AIRCRAFT. IF TESTS ARE SUCCESSFUL, THRUSH WOULD BE MANUFACTURED HERE ON ROYALTY BASIS FOR SALE BY ROCKWELL IN WESTERN EUROPE AND AFRICA, AND FOR SLE BY POLAND IN COMECON COUNTRIES. ROCKWELL WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BEGIN ASSEMBLY OF ITS COMMANDER 112 FOUR PLACE LIGHT AIRCRAFT IN POLAND THIS YEAR, WITH MARKETING ARRANGEMENT SIMILAR TO THE PROPOSED FOR THRUSH. ALTHOUGH AT FIRST ALL COMPNETNS WOULD BE SUPPLIED BY ROCKWELL, POLAND-MADE PARTS WOULD GRADUALLY REPLACE MOST IMPORTS OVER PERIOD OF YEARS. COMMANDER PROJECT WOULD REPLACE SIMILAR FRENCH PROPOSAL.

4. JACHNIS TOLD EMBOFFS THAT PROBLEM OF FAA CERTIFICATION FOR THESE AIRCRAFT AND PARTS MUST NOW BE FACED. HE SAID THAT MFA WILL SOON SEND TO EMBASSY OFFICIAL REQUEST TO OPEN DISCUSSION OF COMPREHENSIVE BILATERAL AIRWORTHINESS AGREEMENT.

5. EMBOFFS EXPLAINED TO JACHNIS THAT, ASSUMING US GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO SUCH AGREEMENT WITH POLAND, THIMING REQUIRED TO CONCLUDE SUCH AGREEMENT IS UNCERTAIN, AND DEPENDS AMONGH OTHER THINGS UPON AVAILABILITY OF FAA INSPECTION TEAMS. JACHNIS THEN ASKED WHETHER CERTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUAL AIRCRAFT WOULD BE POSSIBLE AS INTERIM MEASURE, SINCE HE HOPED THAT ASSEMBLY OF COMMANDER 112 WOULD BEGIN HERE BEFORE END OF 1974. EMBOFFS GAVE JACHNIS COPY OF AIRWORTHINESS AGREEMENT CONCLUDED IN 1970 BY US AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR HIS INFORMATION.

6. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT CONCLUSION OF AIRWORTHINESS AGREEMENT TO SUPPLEMENT OR REPLACE GLIDER AIRWORTHINESS AGREEMENT CONCLUDED IN 1965 WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO US. AGREEMENT WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATIVE UNDERTAKINGS NOW BEING DISCUSSED HER BY SEVERAL US FIRMS. ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL PROPOSALS, FOR EXAMPLE, ARE BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT AIRWORTHINESS AGREEMENT CAN BE CONCLUDED WITHIN NEXT YEAR TO COVER AT LEAST THE ASSEMBLY OF AIRCRAFT AND THE MANUFACTURE OF SOME COMPNETNS IN POLAND.

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BOTH BOEING AND MCCDONNELL-DOUGLAS MAY HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR SALE OF LARGE AIRCRAFT TO POLAND IF SATISFACTORY METHOD FOR OFFSETTING SOME OF THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS CAN BE FOUND. BOTH FIRMS ARE ACTIVELY EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATIVE PRODUCTION AGREEMENTS, SEVERAL OF WHICH WOULD INVOLVE AIRCRAFT COMPONENTS PRODUCTION OF ASSMEBLY WHICH WOULD REQUIRE INDIVIDUAL FAA CERTIFICATION IN ABSENCE OF COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT.

PRATT AND WHITNEY AND SIKORSKY DIVISIONS OF UNITED AIRCRAFT HAVE ALSO HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH PEZETEL ON POSSIBLE CO-PRODUCTION VENTURES. VALUE OF US EXPORTS GENERATED BY THESE PROPOSALS, EXCLUDING POSSIBLE SALES OF LARGE AIRCRAFT, COULD EASILY EXCEED \$5 MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS AND GUIDANCE FOR EMBASSY RESPONSE TO FURTHER INQUIRIES WHICH WE EXPECT FROM BOTH US FIRMS AND POLISH GOVERNMENT.
DAVIES

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